

## Warden Message No. 2 2009 (H1N1 Influenza)

August 27, 2009

This warden message is being issued to alert U.S. citizens residing and traveling in Cuba about travel measures taken by the Cuban Government due to the H1N1 Flu (*Swine Flu*) Outbreak. The GOC has informed the U.S. Interests Section that it will screen travelers coming into Cuba by asking them to fill out a questionnaire regarding their current health status. If travelers are identified as being ill with flu-like symptoms in the airport, they may be evaluated by local medical resources with the potential for treatment and quarantine at a Cuban hospital. The Government of Cuba asks that individuals staying or residing in Cuba, including diplomats, who are exhibiting flu-like symptoms, report to the hospital where they are normally treated. If the hospital suspects that the individual may have H1N1, they will be immediately quarantined for treatment. **Please note that the U.S. Department of State cannot interfere with the rights of other countries to screen airline passengers entering or exiting their countries, nor can it influence the number of days in quarantine.**

Cuba has reported confirmed cases of H1N1 and has quarantined the cases, including foreign travelers and residents, until their recovery. Because these outbreak-related delays, which could include several days of quarantine, may affect planned activities and lead to unexpected costs, CDC strongly recommends that travelers consider purchasing travel insurance. To find a list of possible travel health and medical evacuation insurance companies, visit [Medical Information for Americans Abroad](#) (U.S. Department of State).

The U.S. Interests Section will continue to monitor this situation and will issue updated messages, if needed. For further information about the H1N1 Outbreak, please consult the Department of State information at [http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis\\_pa\\_tw/pa/pa\\_pandemic.html](http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/pa/pa_pandemic.html), the United States Centers for Disease Control website at <http://www.cdc.gov/swineflu/> or the World Health Organization website at <http://www.who.int/csr/disease/swineflu/en/index.html>.

The U.S.-based call center for U.S. citizens can be reached from 8:00 am – 8:00 pm Eastern Daylight Time, M-F, at 1-888-407-4747, or if calling from outside the U.S., at (202)-501-4444. For any emergencies involving American citizens, please contact the American Citizens Services (ACS) Unit of the U.S. Interests Section, located at Calzada between L y M Streets, Vedado, Havana, Cuba, telephone 537-833-3551/9; after hours emergency telephone 537-833-3026, ACS unit fax 537-833-1653; e-mail [HavanaConsularInfo@state.gov](mailto:HavanaConsularInfo@state.gov); web page <http://havana.state.gov/>.

U. S. Interests Section  
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